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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/676,538 |
| Filing Date | 09/30/2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Jai N. Subrahmanyam |
| Art Unit | 2652 |
| Examiner Name | Robert S. Tupper |
| Attorney Docket Number | WSTD-L-085A / K35A1273 |

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

15

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Certificate of Mailing; and Two Return Receipt Postcard |
| <div>Remarks</div> | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | STETINA BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER | | |
| Signature | <i>Eric L. Tanezaki</i> | | |
| Printed name | Eric L. Tanezaki | | |
| Date | September 16, 2005 | Reg. No. | 40,196 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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| Signature | <i>Abby L. Christensen</i> | | |
| Typed or printed name | Abby L. Christensen | Date | 09/16/2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: WSTD-085A / K35A1273
TITLE: HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY INCLUDING A TRACE SUSPENSION
ASSEMBLY BACKING LAYER WITH A CONDUCTIVE LAYER FORMED UPON
A GIMBAL HAVING A LOWER OXIDATION RATE




Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8 or 37 CFR 1.10

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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on September 16, 2005


(Signature)

Abby L. Christensen
(Typed name of person signing certificate)

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1. Response to Office Action (7 pages);
2. Transmittal
3. Certificate of Mailing
4. Two return postcards

Application No.: 10/676,538
Response to Office Action of August 30, 2005
Attorney Docket: K35A1273 / WSTD L-085A



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|-----------|
| Applicants: | Subrahmanyam et al. |) | Confirmation No. | 7662 |
| | |) | | |
| Serial No.: | 10/676,538 |) | Art Unit: | 2652 |
| | |) | | |
| Filed: | September 30, 2003 |) | Examiner: | Robert S. |
| | |) | | Tupper |
| For: | HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY |) | | |
| | INCLUDING A TRACE |) | | |
| | SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY |) | | |
| | BACKING LAYER WITH A |) | | |
| | CONDUCTIVE LAYER FORMED |) | | |
| | UPON A GIMBAL HAVING A |) | | |
| | LOWER OXIDATION RATE |) | | |

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the initial Office Action mailed August 30, 2005 in relation to the above-identified patent application, please consider the following amendments to the claims and remarks as follows.